

# GAGA & T.SWIFT? NOT SO MUCH

SINGER NIXES HOOKUP RUMOR PAGE 14



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# No charge



**Protest action.** New Yorkers took to the streets in dismay Wednesday night, after a grand jury declined to indict police officer Daniel Pantaleo in the choking death of Eric Garner. PAGE 02

Protesters gather in Staten Island after a grand jury declined to indict a police officer for the death of Eric Garner. / MILES DIXON

**Fast-food workers to stage living wage protest**

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**Lovers' quarrel: Tips for fighting fair**

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**Chef trades beach for Tavern on the Green**

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**It's crunch time in fantasy football**

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# 1

## NEWS

Top 3

### The best of Metro.us

**1** PHOTO: A nude and very pregnant Kourtney Kardashian poses for photoshoot'

**2** '5 things that could go wrong with "Peter Pan Live" (but hopefully won't)'

**3** VIDEO: Sia's "Chandelier" music video remade shot for shot by man'



On the go

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Clockwise from top left: A man symbolically chokes himself with a scarf during a protest in Grand Central Terminal; Jewel Miller, Garner's girlfriend, and their child in Staten Island; A man screaming, "This is what he died for?"; U.S. Rep. Hakeem Jeffries speaks out BENJAMIN CARR, FATHER OF ERIC GARNER / GETTY IMAGES; TOP RIGHT IS MILES DIXON, METRO

# No indictment for cop in Garner death

**Justice.** Officer who placed Staten Island man in illegal chokehold will not be prosecuted.

Angry New Yorkers marched at the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree lighting ceremony Wednesday night to protest a Staten Island grand jury's decision not to indict a white New York City police officer in the chokehold death of unarmed 43-year-old black man Eric Garner.

"They protect the tree and not the citizen," said Donysha Smith, who stood in Rockefeller Plaza carrying a sign that read "Black lives matter."

She added: "If they would protect the citizen like they protect the tree, s— like that what happened to Garner wouldn't have happened!"

Garner, suspected of selling untaxed cigarettes on Bay Street in Tompkinsville, was put in a chokehold by Police Officer Daniel Pantaleo on July 17. A bystander filmed the incident, and Garner's death was ruled a homicide by the city's medical examiner.

The grand jury's decision came just over a week after a grand jury in Ferguson, Missouri, did not indict a white police officer in the shooting death of unarmed black teenager Michael Brown. Riots broke out in Ferguson, and protesters marched across the U.S.

"People live here and they're not dumb," said Rodney Lee, 28, who works at a beauty supply store near where Garner died. "They won't burn down the shops."

"They should set up some local policemen who grew up in the area and know how to treat the people over here. ... I think the body camera would help,"

## Elected officials respond

**"This doesn't pass the smell test to me. A grand jury indicts for probable cause. This seems to me like probable cause if there ever was one."**

Rep. Eliot Engel

**"In fact, we had a body camera here."**

Rep. Gregory Meeks

**"I cannot find a right side ... to this terrible situation."**

Rep. Charlie Rangel

said Joey Evans, 36, who claimed he was also "beaten up" by Pantaleo.

In Union Square, several hundred protestors faced off against a wall of cops, chanting "Black lives matter," "No justice, no peace" and "Hey cops, stop killing!" Several cops could be heard laughing at the protest.

Richmond County District Attorney Daniel M. Donovan Jr. announced the lack of indictment in a prepared statement late Wednesday afternoon.

The 23 grand jury members have been empaneled since Sept. 29, and Donovan said he has filed a court order to release the investigative material they reviewed.

Congressman Hakeem Jeffries was among elected officials who denounced the grand jury's findings on Wednesday afternoon and called on the Department of Justice to investigate Garner's death.

"This grand jury couldn't even see fit to charge this officer with a misdemeanor," Jeffries said. "I'm a father of two young African-American boys, and I don't know what to say to them."

Mayor Bill de Blasio said there will be a federal investigation into Garner's death, and promised a further NYPD inquiry.

"Staten Island is not Ferguson, it will not be tonight or tomorrow," Public Advocate Letitia James said.

Pantaleo said in a statement released by the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association that he became an officer to "help people," and said he felt badly about Garner's death.

**Additional reporting by Dan Buyanovsky**



CATHARINA THÜMLING



and WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE

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Officers at the police academy wearing the shirtfront video cameras, which are hard to see against the navy blue uniform. / DAN BUYANOVSKY

# NYPD launches cop-cam with shirtfront video

**Police.** Officers in six precincts will wear video cameras on their shirts to record activity as part of stop-and-frisk settlement.

ing to help in many, many ways. It's going to improve the work of law enforcement," said Mayor Bill de Blasio.

The six precincts chosen for the pilot program have a historically high number of stop-and-frisks.

Police are testing two off-the-shelf cameras; both will send film to a cloud-based storage system. Trainers also need to be sure batteries will last for a cop's 9-hour shift before they can roll out the cameras to all of the NYPD's 30,000-plus officers, Police Commissioner Bill Bratton said at the presentation.

Officers won't be required to activate their cameras if it's unsafe or "impractical," Jessica Tisch, the NYPD's deputy commissioner of information technology, told reporters.

Bratton said he'll see how the cameras work in practice before rolling out the program citywide.

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THE VIEWU

Cop critic Rashad Robinson, executive director of nonprofit CopWatch-NYC, said the cameras will help "hold law enforcement accountable and create better relationships between our communities moving forward."

DAN BUYANOVSKY  
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purchase them. That's it!

In addition to Toys for Tots, your donations go to local families who are receiving help from the Partnership for the Homeless in New York City.



# Food workers walk out for living wage

**Labor.** Workers from McDonald's, Burger King and other fast-food chains in 190 cities to protest for a higher minimum wage.

Last month Jorel Ware sat down in the middle of 8th Avenue, and was arrested in front of his McDonald's managers and co-workers.

At 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, Ware will again walk out of the midtown restaurant where he's worked for two years.

Ware will join workers in 190 cities to rally for a \$15-a-hour minimum wage, the least they say a person can live on in 2014. City fast-food workers will be joined by baggage handlers and other employees at Kennedy and LaGuardia airports.

"I've always worked, and I've always strug-

gled," said Ware, 31, who lives in The Bronx, and worked warehouse jobs before McDonald's. Now, he works about 30 hours a week and takes home about \$180. He has to choose among paying his phone bill, buying groceries or paying for his hotel room.

"It has to get better, but we have to fight to get it better," said Ware, who was the first worker at his store to join the fast-food worker movement. Since then, Ware said he's convinced about 70 percent of his co-workers — but no managers — to rally with him.

James Parrott, deputy director and chief economist at the Fiscal Policy Institute, said raising the minimum wage improves the broader economy by adding jobs, and giving lower-wage workers more money to spend.

"It's pretty clear this has a positive individual and overall economic impact," Parrott said.

Parrott said numbers

## Rally

Fast-food and airport workers will strike on Thursday in Brooklyn and Manhattan.

- The Brooklyn rally starts at 6:30 a.m. at 417 Fulton Street, near Burger King.
- The Manhattan rally starts at 11 a.m. at 167 Chambers, near McDonald's. Protesters will walk to City Hall shortly before noon.

released on Tuesday by the Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement found 42 percent — or 2.7 million people — of New York City households don't make enough money to cover a family's basic needs — food, shelter, health and child care.



WENDY JOAN BIDDLECOMBE  
Wendy.Biddlecombe@metro.us

## Quoted

"I've always worked, and I've always struggled. It has to get better, but we have to fight to get it better."

Ware



Jorel Ware, 31, struggles to pay rent and buy groceries on his \$8-an-hour wage. / CARLOS LLAMAS

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# US believes Iran launched air raids on Islamic State

**Tehran.** A senior Iranian official denied that Iran had launched any such strikes.

The United States has indications that Iran has carried out airstrikes on Islamic State targets in Iraq in recent days in what appeared to be the first such operations by Iran's air force, U.S. officials said on Wednesday.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, officials said the United States had indications that Iran had used F-4 Phantoms to launch the raids in Diyala near the Iranian border in the last several days.

An Iraqi security expert



John Kerry addresses a meeting of the coalition trying to crush the Islamic State. / GETTY IMAGES

gave a slightly different account, saying the strikes took place 10 days ago. "It is true that Iranian planes hit some targets in Diyala. Of course the government denies it because they have no radars," Hisham al-

Hashemi told Reuters.

"Iran and Turkey are the only regional operators of the F-4, and with the location of the incident not far from the Iranian border and Turkey's unwillingness to get involved in the conflict militarily, indicators point to this being an Islamic Republic of Iran Air Force aircraft," said Gareth Jennings of IHS Jane's Defence Weekly.

Secretary of State John Kerry declined to comment.

"I am not going to make any announcements, or confirm or deny the reported military action of another country in Iraq. It is up to them [the Iranians] or up to the Iraqis to do that if it did indeed take place," Kerry told a news conference in Brussels. **REUTERS**

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# Fed says economy expanding, shale production steady

**On target.** The Beige Book report found weather and fuel prices spurred consumer spending.

U.S. economic activity continued to expand in October and November, with lower gasoline prices boosting consumer spending, the Federal Reserve said on Wednesday.

In its Beige Book report of anecdotal information on business activity collected from contacts nationwide on or before Nov. 24, the central bank said a number of its districts remained optimistic about the outlook.

"Consumer spending continued to trend higher in most districts in Oc-



Workers line up a pipe while drilling for oil in the Bakken shale formation outside Watford City, North Dakota. / GETTY IMAGES

## Quoted

**"Upward wage pressures continued to be evident for certain types of occupations and for skilled workers."** The Fed

tober and November," the Fed said. "Some contacts viewed lower gasoline prices as a contributing

factor to higher consumer spending, and an early cold spell helped spur sales of winter apparel in several districts."

Despite a sharp drop in crude oil prices, drilling activity in shale production districts remained steady, the Beige Book showed. Oil prices have declined since June and touched a five-year low early this week.

REUTERS

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# FORDHAM

### Hacked

## Investigators find links to N. Korea in Sony attack probe

Hackers used tools in a devastating cyber attack on Sony Pictures Entertainment that were based on ones used in similar attacks conducted against South Korea by North Korea, a person familiar with the company's investigation said on Wednesday.

The attack exposed massive volumes of internal company data and shut down the company's computer systems for a week.

The hacking into one of Hollywood's biggest studios has alarmed the government and cybersecurity experts, who say this is the first major attack on a U.S. company to use a highly destructive class of malicious software that is designed to incapacitate computer networks. **REUTERS**

## Cheap fuel. First US gas station drops below \$2 per gallon



Gas prices are at a four-year low and heading lower. / GETTY IMAGES

An Oncue Express station in Oklahoma City was selling gasoline for \$1.99 a gallon Wednesday, becoming the first to drop its prices below \$2 in the U.S. since July 30, 2010, Patrick DeHaan, a senior petroleum analyst at GasBuddy Organization Inc., said by email from Chicago.

"We knew when we saw crude oil prices drop last week that we'd break the \$2 threshold pretty soon, but we didn't know if it would happen in South Carolina, Texas, Missouri or Oklahoma,"

DeHaan said. "Today's national average, \$2.74, now makes the current price we pay a whopping 51 cents per gallon less than what we paid a year ago."

Gasoline is sliding after OPEC decided last week not to cut production amid a global glut of oil that has already dragged international oil prices down by 39 percent in the past five months. Pump prices have fallen by almost a dollar since reaching this year's high on April 26. **BLOOMBERG**



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#### Presidential digital scanning

### Bust was a 3-D print

Barack Obama is the first U.S. president to have a portrait produced by a 3-D printer. The one-of-a-kind bust — now on display at the Smithsonian Castle in Washington, D.C. — was created using new Light Stage face scanner technology devised by the University of Southern California's Institute for Creative Technologies. **MWN**

#### By the numbers

**80**

Eighty photographs were taken of President Barack Obama in one second using the Light Stage face scanner, in the setting of 50 light sources mounted in a futuristic-looking quarter-circle of aluminum scaffolding. The portraits of President Barack Obama were created based on data collected by a Smithsonian-led team of 3-D digital imaging specialists and include a digital and 3-D printed bust and life mask.



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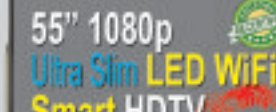
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# 2

## CULTURE

## THE WORD

Ned Ehrbar takes on the world of gossip.

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R. Kelly looks like an unwilling participant in the Lady Gaga/Taylor Swift sandwich. / ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

## Lady Gaga puts those Taylor Swift rumors to rest

During a recent visit to Howard Stern's radio show, Lady Gaga set the record straight about herself and another pop music titan. Stern pressed Gaga with, "Someone called in and said that you are now a lover of Taylor Swift's, that the two of you are making love to one another." That guy, such a way with words. Anyway,

Gaga insists there's nothing of the sort going on — though she'd be totally down if Swift wanted to give it a whirl. "I don't think she would be into that," Gaga replied, adding later, "If she's into that, she can call me."

And in a totally Lady Gaga move, the "Bad Romance" singer revealed that she likes Swift be-

cause Swift listens to her music, a piece of info Gaga picked up from a stylist they share. According to Gaga, Swift "was doing a shoot and he was in there styling her ... and he goes, 'Taylor Swift is in here blasting "Artpop" so loud, and she is dancing and she is posing,' and I said to myself, 'I like this girl.'"

### Daily video

## Reese Witherspoon reimagines some Christmas classics

During a visit to "The Tonight Show," Reese Witherspoon got a chance to update some classic Christmas carols with nonsense lyrics. "Jingle Bells," for instance, becomes "Small Old Man." Witherspoon



YOUTUBE, THE TONIGHT SHOW STARRING JIMMY FALLON

isn't totally convinced at first, but she eventually comes around — and really

sells the sure-to-be-a-classic "Squeeze the Cheese and Poke the Pony."

## A lot of people like to stream Ed Sheeran



Millions of people stream Ed Sheeran's music, probably even Victoria's Secret Angels.

Who's the undisputed king of online music? Ed Sheeran is. The cuddly British ginger was the most-streamed artist in 2014, according to Spotify, with a staggering 860 million individual streams of his songs, while his album "X" was the most-streamed album globally with 430 million listens. I guess that month I spent streaming the "Flash Gordon" soundtrack on repeat didn't make as much of

an impact as I'd hoped. Of course, there's no mention of Spotify-ditching Taylor Swift in the report, so maybe Sheeran's win should come with an asterisk. Now, for some truly terrifying numbers: Spotify's more than 50 million registered users streamed more than 7 billion hours of music this year — adding up to about 800,000 years of music, and maybe a few annoying audiobook ads.

## Rosario Dawson shuts down Matt Lauer

During an interview on the "Today" show to promote her role in the new film "Top Five," Rosario Dawson had to firmly but politely put Matt Lauer in his place when he tried to steer the conversation toward Dawson's recent

adoption of a 12-year-old daughter. "I very rarely talk about tabloid speculation, and this is not an exception," she scolds Lauer. "My family is incredibly private — most of us, anyway." Consider yourself told, Matt.

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# Taylor Swift vs. J.Law: A dating duel

ALL PHOTOS  
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**Single ladies.** We create a satirical battle between the two stars.

We just can't stop talking about Taylor Swift's love life today. And if the success of both "1989"

## Height

Both ladies are known for their statuesque physiques. Have you seen photos of Lawrence (5 feet 9 inches) standing next to Josh Hutcherson on the red carpet? And if you Google, there are photos of Swift (5 feet 10 inches) with poor Josh as well.

**The winner:** After noting the height differences, head-to-shoulder ratios and heel heights of Josh-Jen-Taylor photos, it's obvious who wins this.

and "The Hunger Games: Mockingjay — Part 1" has taught us one thing, it's that it's really fun to pit beautiful, wildly successful women against each other.

Swift and Lawrence's successes come after some rough patches: most notably, the theft of J.Law's nude photos and Swift's tendency to dish about

her relationships in her songs. It's no question that the two successful women have loads in common: They're rich, beautiful, talented and blond. In other words, culturally bound to hate each other, right?

A few weeks ago, it was rumored that Swift was after J.Law's ex Chris Martin of Coldplay. In the

spirit of the ridiculousness of this, we've compiled a Knockout List to decide — once and for all — which diva reigns supreme. Please read and enjoy it with a grain of salt. We definitely do.

MARIA BARBERA  
@metroneewyork  
letters@metro.us



## Interview skills

This is where we begin to see big differences between the two. Where Swift is a PR dream (she's got an arsenal of cute

cat stories, fake-surprise faces, and don't-ask-me-but-please-actually-ask-me-who-I'm-dating lines), Lawrence is a little more, shall we say, rugged? She talks about peeing and

turning toilets blue in her *Mystique* body paint.

**The winner:** They've both met and talked to the queen of awesome, Ellen DeGeneres. So it's a tie.

## Awards

Lawrence won an Oscar at 22. Swift won Album of the Year at the Grammys at 20 years old. Twenty. Years. Old.

**The winner:** Swift by a two-year lead.

## Conclusion

Although Swift comes out ahead in our faux duel, in reality they're both undeniably winners. At life, at entertainment, at being classy and at being successful. That can be

intimidating, and it's easy to pit them against each other (um, hello, guilty!) rather than promote an entertainment industry in which there's room for both of them.

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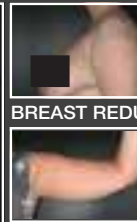
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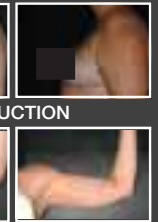
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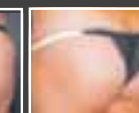


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### TV watch list

#### DRAMA

#### 'Gracepoint'

For the David Tennant fans who don't like musicals: tune in while Tennant's Det. Carver deals with a heart condition and a deadline to find the killer.

9 P.M., FOX

#### COMEDY

#### 'The McCarthys'

Ronny's mother tries to fix

him up with his sister's ex boyfriend once she learns the ex is gay. That seems like a match made in heaven! 9:30 P.M., CBS

#### REALITY

#### 'The Taste'

Contestants compete for 16 spots in this cooking contest where judges (including Anthony Bourdain) gauge winners based on blind taste tests.

SEASON PREMIERE, 8 P.M., ABC  
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#### MUSICALS

#### 'Peter Pan Live'

Let's be real: No one is watching anything tonight besides Allison Williams in this goofy wig. Join us while we watch and live-tweet! 8 P.M., NBC



You know you're going to watch it. / VIRGINIA SHERWOOD, NBC

## Q&A

# MICHAEL RAPAPORT TAKES ON THE KNICKS

**Interview.** The actor-filmmaker got to meet his basketball heroes when he made "When the Garden Was Eden."

Michael Rapaport points out that he was "in the womb" in 1970 when the New York Knicks won their first NBA championship and only 3 when they won their second. That didn't stop the actor-filmmaker from directing "When the Garden Was Eden," a documentary now on Netflix Instant about the team's storied line-ups from the late-'60s through mid-'70s.

#### What's your own history with the Knicks?

I wanted to be a basketball player when I was growing up. That was my life. Growing up in New York City, the Knicks were my team. The fabric of those championship teams is something I learned about at an early age. Even before I saw them I heard about Walt Frazier, I heard about Earl Monroe, I heard about Willis Reed. Walt Frazier was iconic at that time. And over 40 years, as the team had highs and lows but never got over the hump of winning that championship, you continue to go back to those old teams. There would be no movie if the Knicks would have won two or three championships since then.

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Michael Rapaport's (below) doc "When the Garden Was Eden," now on Netflix Instant, looks back on the Knicks' old championship-winning lineups. / ESPN, GETTY IMAGES (BELOW)

**It's amazing to see a time when the NBA was so small and unloved, especially compared to now.**

They played in the NBA when it was a mom-and-pop league. There were eight teams. They didn't

make a living. It's hard for us to understand that, because everyone knows who LeBron is, you know who Kobe is. They're like Apple; they're brands. But at [that] time these guys had jobs — not just during the off-season, but while they were playing in the f—ing NBA. John Havlicek [of the Celtics] was a sales rep! They were young men and were getting drafted into the army. They were doing service with the National Guard while

they were with the Knicks. Cazzie Russell would leave practice and on the weekends would be with the National Guard. That wasn't like the National Guard today. There were riots and s—. Cazzie Russell was on the roof during the Chicago riots with a gun while he was a Knick!



MATT PRIGGE  
@mattprigge  
matt.prigge@metrow.us

Online

## Haters gonna hate

**You also made a Tribe Called Quest doc ('Beats, Rhymes & Life').**

These are subjects that are so meaningful to people. I feel I have a responsibility to them. I tell my producers that if it sucks, people are coming after me. I might get some credit if

it's good, but if it sucks I'm the one who's going to get screamed at. They'd call me a "f—ing piece of s—" on Twitter, or if I'm on a train they'd be like, "Hey, you f—ed up the Knicks movie."

**Do you get that a lot?**  
On Twitter, everybody gets it. God rest his soul, but Nelson Mandela would get heckled on Twitter.

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# Sandra Oh turns to crowdfunding

**Interview.** The “Grey’s Anatomy” star follows up her TV run with a fresh film project, but she needs your help to get it made.

After 10 seasons on “Grey’s Anatomy,” actress Sandra Oh is going in a very different direction. Oh is lending her voice and producing power to “Window Horses,” an animated film about a young Canadian poet of Chinese and Iranian descent. And she’s learning a lot about the world of crowdfunding, thanks to the film’s extensive Indiegogo campaign.

**What was it about this project that spoke to you?** “Window Horses” is pro-girl, it’s pro-tolerance, it’s pro-diversity and it’s set in the world of poetry. I realized while watching things that are geared

toward young people, young girls, I still do not see myself represented as an Asian person — even with the headway that we have made.

**How do you think we get to a place where projects that are pro-girl and pro-diversity don’t just seem like no-brainers?**

I honestly don’t know. I’m fully aware that the Indiegogo campaign is an outsider’s way of making work, and that’s why it appeals to me. Having been inside in some ways for the past decade on a very successful and very well-funded television show, I just want to take what I know from that and bring it



SANDRA OH  
FILMMAGIC

to another audience — an audience who is not as well-represented, who actually wants to hear different stories, not mainstream stories.



Sandra Oh is trying to raise funds for “Window Horses,” an animated film. / PROVIDED

**What about what Shonda Rhimes has done for diverse representation on TV?**

The way that her track record can actually prove in a physical, monetized way that people will watch a TV show when there are black people on it, to be quite blunt — it’s like, yes! The character in “Window Horses” is this mixed-race young woman who is

trying to discover herself and who has an artist’s voice and goes and finds it in another country. I just know that there is an audience for that. I know there is a girl out there who is going to see herself in this character, and I want her to see it.



NED EHRBAR  
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## Bonus question

**How has it been so far interacting with this underrepresented audience?**

It’s mysterious in its own way because you have no idea what will happen; and I just hope that people will see it and say, “I want to see a stick figure character who has two little slits for eyes and is wearing a chador. I want to see her up there so I’m going to donate.” It’s a platform to connect with people — to connect with like-minded people. Just the amount of people who have responded to it and want to tell their own stories, it’s a like a floodgate. When people — or let’s say larger organizations or paradigm structures — say that no one wants to hear these stories, I just don’t believe it. I don’t believe it at all.

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# ADMIT ONE

Metro rounds up what's in cinemas this week.

MATT PRIGGE  
matt.prigge@metro.us



Critics will have to learn what the hell "The Pyramid" is along with its expendable cast. / DIDIER BAVEREL

**1 'The Pyramid'** The holiday season is a profitable time at the movies, which is why Hollywood decided to release — well, dump — just one wide release this weekend: some horror thing about people trapped inside one of Egypt's world wonders.

**2 'Wild'** Perhaps Reese Witherspoon trawling some 1,100 miles of Pacific coastline trail doesn't sound thrilling, but know that the flashback-heavy screenplay is by Nick Hornby and that Witherspoon is at her grumpy best.

**3 'Still Alice'** Sure, it reads like a disease movie of the week, but this portrait of a linguistics professor struggling with early Alzheimer's disease does star Julianne Moore, as well as Kristen Stewart — back to doing good, small films — as her daughter.

**4 'Miss Julie'** August Strindberg's tale of class and sex gets another film adaptation, this one pitting Jessica Chastain's bored arist against Colin Farrell's bitter social climber, with direction from no less than Liv Ullmann.

**5 'Life Partners'** In this semi-dramatic comedy, Gillian Jacobs and Leighton Meester play longtime besties — one straight, the other gay — whose bond is put in jeopardy when the former finally succumbs to a serious relationship (with Adam Brody).

**6 'Zero Motivation'** Set in a remote desert base in the Israeli army, this office drone comedy tells a triptych of stories about its female cadets, who deal more with boredom than ethnic strife, whiling away their tenure with stapler fights.

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# Rock 'n' roll is the bottom line

## Matthew Healy.

The 1975's lead singer on why playing the cliched rocker isn't an act.

not, the man is not just turning up, he's performing with the bravado of a eulogized rocker. Healy, whose indie rock band reached No. 1 in the U.K. with their self-titled debut album in September 2013, is aware that he panders to what he describes as "this flamboyant kind of dandy. There is an element of parody to me, the parody of the rock star and that's kind of who I am, you know. I'm not trying to be anyone else. I'm obviously 25 and having fun."

He knows his wine-swilling antics on stage might earn him some criticism, but as he protests, "People don't want me to go out and be bashful. I don't want to go out and be bashful. What is the f—ing point? I've not worked all my life to come and worry what the whole guest area thinks!" Nor should he. Healy is the palatable side of pop-rock stardom: a rakelike hedonism without falling into The Libertines frontman Pete Doherty's opiate-induced world of missed gigs and police custody.

"I'm from a very middle-class environment, and I was embracing being a left-field artist when

"It's just f—ing go, go, go. I'm going to smoke a joint here to fill the cliché, but it's the only time I can close the door away from everybody else," says a weary-looking Matt Healy. The lead singer's rock band, The 1975, has pretty much been on a world tour for the past two years, and it's not over yet. It's no surprise that the 25-year-old Londoner is distractedly pacing the trailer in the artists' area at Reading Festival before slumping into the sofa and sparking up a joint.

"People don't really know this but I'm a very

ticky person," he explains. Does he need the weed to relax? "I don't need it; I don't have that vice. I've always smoked a lot of weed and it's kind of part of my identity," he rebuts, before citing that all too frequently heard comparison to people who enjoy a glass of wine after work.

Whether you advocate for drug legalization or

## If you go

### The 1975

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I was younger. For me it was all about the music; I didn't get involved with heavy drugs," he says

As image-conscious as the effete-looking singer appears, one wonders whether the self-styled dandyism — dressed in skinny black jeans and a crumpled white shirt provocatively undone a button too far, with dishevelled Byronesque hair — doesn't end up diverting attention away from the music. "A lot has been documented about me, but not really enough about how everything I do is in the pursuit of music."

"I know there are certain clichés that surround it, but my identity is really ingrained in music," he says.

**RICHARD PECKETT**  
richard.peckett@metro.lu



## Quoted

"A lot has been documented about me but not really enough about how everything I do is in the pursuit of music. I know there are certain clichés that surround it, but my identity is really ingrained in music." Healy



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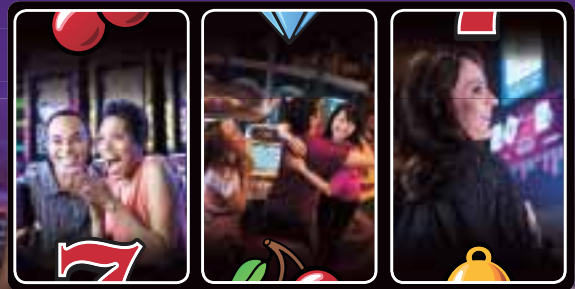




Matthew Healy of The 1975 says there is an element of parody in his persona. / GETTY IMAGES

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# Assassin's Creed faces up to reality

**Then & now.** The latest in the game series blends the old with the new.

Video game graphics are becoming more and more photo-realistic.

Exhibit A: "Assassin's Creed: Unity," set during the French Revolution, manages to recreate 1790s Paris so well that Paris-based journalist Damien Hypolite's juxtaposed images of the game and the modern day locales quickly went viral online. **MWN**



DAMIEN HYPOLITE

## The why

### A brief chat with Damien Hypolite

**What inspired you to compare the new "Assassin's Creed" with the Paris of today?**

The very first day I played "Assassin's Creed Unity," I decided to try and find all the places in Paris where I used to live. I was very impressed by the quality and detail of the game's graphics, and how some iconic places in the capital have

changed since the game's setting in the late 18th century. I made screenshots of the game's footage, printed them out on photo paper, got on my bike and visited all the right spots that were depicted in the video game. After I took

the photos of the game world-meeting-the real world on my smartphone, I made some color corrections on Photoshop and posted them online. The rest was done by the world wide web, which made the series go viral.

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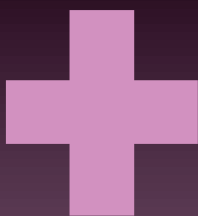


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## PLUS

### The new rules

*Before  
you (hit)  
send*

**Raid your  
camera roll**

Now that we obsessively photograph everything, incorporating a photo into your card doesn't seem as cheesy. "People are more adept at using photos in creative ways, and they simply have more photos," says James.

### Personalize

Whether you're clicking "send" or tracking down festive stamps, make your holiday card distinctly yours. "People love changing little things, like the envelope liner, to give it a personal touch," says James.

### Don't sweat the medium

Gone are the days when an e-card was viewed as second-class correspondence. "In 2014, we see people doing even their weddings digitally," says James.



Paperless Post founders James and Alexa Hirschfeld tell us what's trending this year both online and in print. / NATASHA JAHANGIR

# Letter perfect

**Holiday cards.**  
There's no wrong  
way to deliver  
a thoughtful,  
beautiful note.

The Internet was a very different place when siblings James and Alexa Hirschfeld launched Paperless Post.

Sure, you could pay your bills online, but birthday cards, invitations and thank-you notes still required real stamps, if you had any manners, that is.

"I realized communication was moving online, but there wasn't an outlet to send thoughtful, personal correspondence," says James, 28, who now lives in NYC, but was an undergrad at Harvard when he started

thinking about how to improve the e-card business. "We wanted to bring the beauty of paper correspondence to the digital era."

Today, Paperless Post is the Internet's premier stationery stop, offering both online and paper correspondence by designers including Kate Spade and Jonathan Adler.

Just in time for stationery's High Holy season, we checked in with the Hirschfelds for tips on sending the perfect holiday card.

MONICA WEYMOUTH  
letters@metro.us

### By the numbers

## 6.5B

The number of cards we purchase each year

### Trending now

#### Popular cards

##### Niche invites

People send invites to everything from Ugly Sweater Parties to cookie swaps — a perhaps suburban concept that was foreign to the Hirschfelds, who were raised in Manhattan. "We sell a lot of cookie swap invites — I mean, a lot," says James.

##### Hand-painted motifs

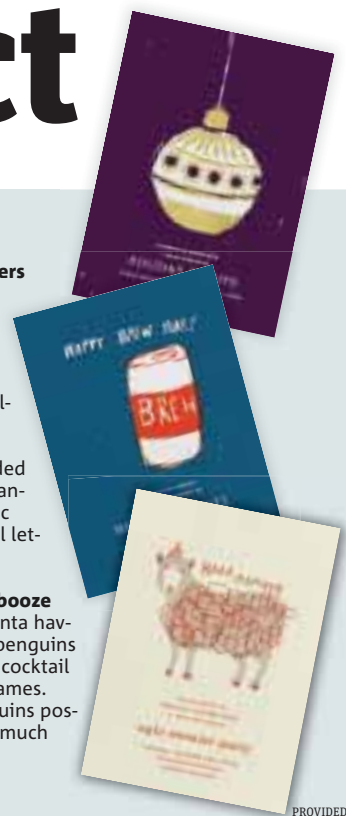
Because the grass is always greener and merrier: When it comes to digital cards, Paperless Post has seen an increase in demand for designs that look more handcrafted and less sleek.

##### All that shimmers

Metallic is in, especially for the holidays. Paperless Post's new foil-stamped collection features more than 70 glitzed-and-gilded designs that channel the aesthetic of an old-school letterpress.

##### Booze, booze, booze

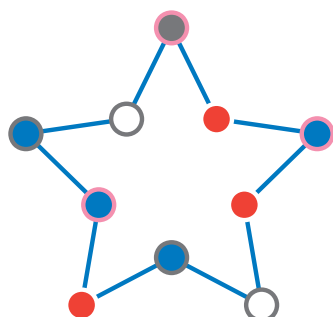
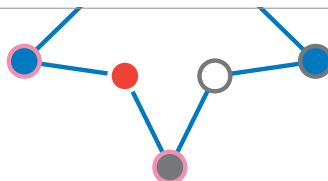
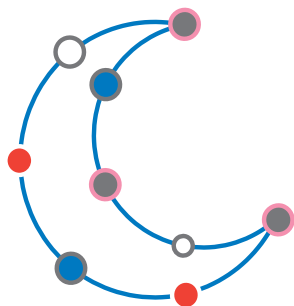
"People love Santa having a drink, or penguins popping out of cocktail shakers," says James. "We have penguins posing with pretty much every kind of alcohol."



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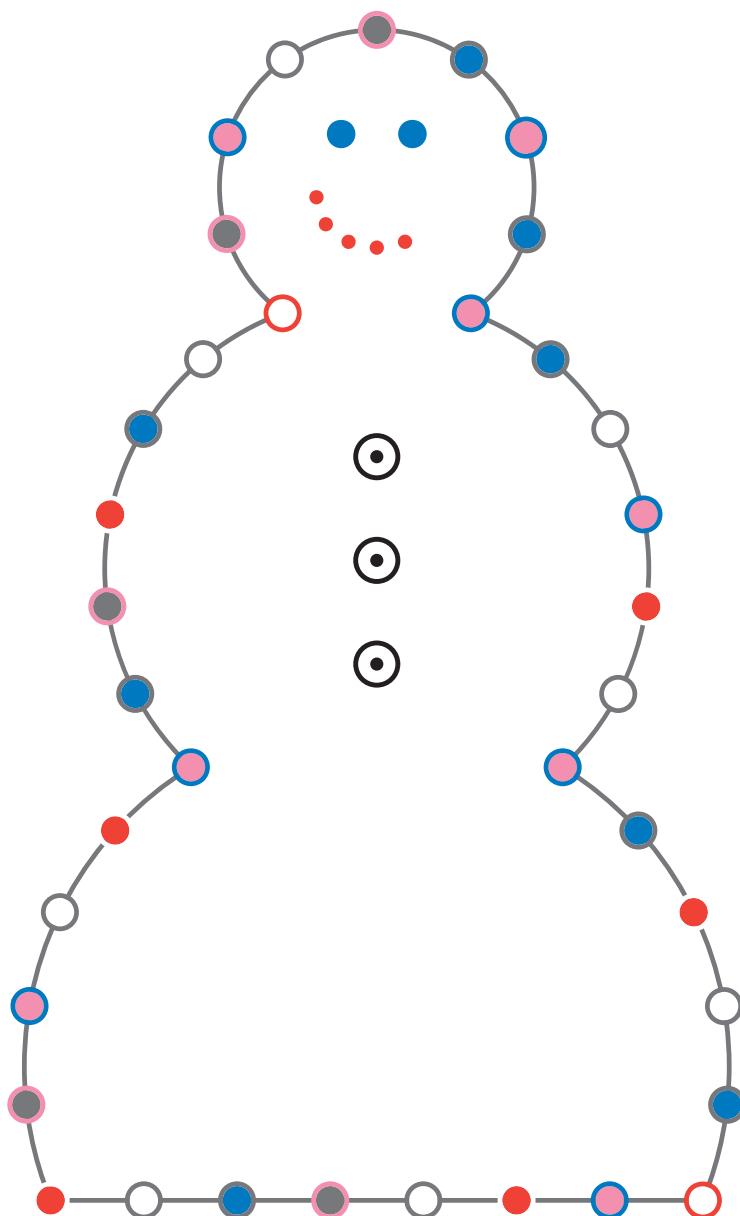
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# Dazzle your host

**Party ready.** Gifts for Pinterest-loving party planners.

We're entering the season of holiday parties, from ugly sweater shindigs to swank cocktail soirees — and you don't want to be the guest who shows up without a gift for the hosts. Trust us, no matter how laid-back they seem, mental notes will be made if all you bring is your empty stomach and bad date stories. So show your friends you appreciate their hard party-planning work.



**TINA CHADHA**  
@TinaatMetro  
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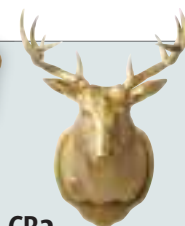
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It's hard to find respectable refrigerator magnets for dudes. This guilt-free taxidermy does the job and adds glam. \$12.95, CB2.COM



## Urban Cricket Golden Coasters

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## Robert Siegel Studio Diane's All Season Tumbler Set

These tumblers are great for everything from flowers to a hefty pour of wine. \$72 FOR A SET OF 2, ROBERTSIEGELSTUDIO.COM



## Lands' End Candy and Cookie Boxes

These decadent treats from Lands' End — such as dark chocolate caramels with sea salt — already come in gorgeous festive wrapping. Double score. \$32.50-\$34.50, LANDSEND.COM



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## Home video. Three box sets for for the couch potato in your life

Streaming video, we're told, has killed DVD and Blu-ray. That doesn't mean it should have. Here are five splashy box sets of actual discs to cram into someone's stocking this consumer season.



**MATT PRIGGE**  
@mattprigge  
matt.prigge@metro.us

## "The Sopranos": The Complete Series

The old DVDs of The Greatest Show Ever looked like crap, begging for loving HD treatment. It finally has it, and replotting through the set means revisiting the late James Gandolfini, whose work still seems fresh. \$279.98



TIME LIFE

## "The Wonder Years": Complete Series

"TWY" is nostalgic for

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## 'Stanley Kubrick: The Masterpiece Collection'

There are only a handful

of filmmakers who stayed true to themselves amid the studio system, and luckily one of them made "2001" and what may be his real masterpiece, "Barry Lyndon." \$199.99



# 5 Gift picks for kids

**Toys.** Children will freak when they see one of these under the tree.

Whether you're an in-the-know parent or a clueless aunt or uncle, knowing what to buy for a kid can be tricky. And you know how kids are: They won't act like they love something if they really don't, so the pressure is on. We sorted through hundreds of the latest and greatest toys at the 2014 Time to Play Holiday Showcase and picked five of the best.



EMILY LAURENCE  
@EmLaurence  
emily.laurence@metro.us

## 1. Disney's 'Frozen' Sing & Swing Olaf

"Frozen" came out last November, but kids are still going crazy for it. One of the newest and cutest "Frozen" toys is this plush Olaf, which sings "In Summer" when you squeeze it. While he sings, his mouth and head bob along to the beat and his body swings in a little dance. If you're gift-hunting for a 3-to-6-year old, this is sure to put a smile on his or her face. **\$24.99, TOYS "R" US**



ALL IMAGES PROVIDED

## 2. Zoomer Dino

Dinosaurs never stop being cool. This remote-controlled robotic toy is trainable and contains sensor-technology that allows it to really interact with people. Kids can teach the dino how to dance, chase, chomp and roar. And this

toy has a personality all its own. The eyes change color based on its mood, and it can even roar, burp and, yes, fart. **\$79.99, TOYS "R" US**



## 3. Kiwi Crate

Kiwi Crate is basically Birchbox for kids. Each month, a box containing a cool project comes in the mail. Not only will the child you're giving this to be excited about getting mail every month (remember that feeling, before you started paying your own bills?), it's basically 12 gifts in one. There are several subscriptions to choose from, but our



favorite is Doodle Crate. Aimed at kids 9 to 14, each kit contains a new craft with plenty of room for young makers to explore their create side. **\$12.95, DOODLE.KIWICRATE.COM**

## 4. Kurio Phone

Let us guess: Your kid wants a phone. The Kurio Phone is a great option because it's a real Android smartphone built for tykes, with games, texting, music streaming and Web searching. But the device also has helpful parental controls — parents can set call and texting limits, and there is a geofencing feature so you can see if your child leaves a preset area. **\$159.99, KURIOWORLD.COM**



## 5. Kid Trax Sing-A-Long Soul Car

And we thought Power Wheels were cool. This battery-powered riding toy comes equipped with a colorful LED party mode light, a working FM radio and two microphones for backseat karaoke. There's also a blue street glow under the car,

around the back speakers and above the headlights. With all of these party features, we're just glad the little drivers aren't on real roads. **\$399.99, TOYS "R" US**



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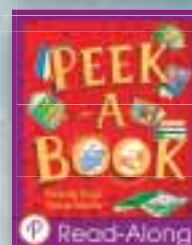
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# Fall for ankle boots

It's time to rock your booties. We march out the best of this season's footwear. **ELODIE NOEL, MWN**



**PLUS**

**Sample sales**

## Alexander Wang

The designer is having quite the year with his big H&M collaboration. If you missed the chance to grab one of those affordably priced pieces, console yourself with this upcoming sample sale. You'll find women's and men's collections from fall 2010 through spring 2014 — along with accessories — at up to 75 percent off. It's on.

Dec. 9 to Dec. 13  
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.  
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Give your wardrobe some kick with ankle boots. / SAINT LAURENT, AW'14



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# Deal with relationship issues in a healthy way

## Making it work.

Learn how to bring up concerns without causing a fight.

The No. 1 question people in couples' counseling have, says psychologist Julia Colwell, is "How do we communicate better?"

"People really want to be able to talk, but they can't for some reason," says Colwell, the author of the new book "The Relationship Skills Workbook."

Here are some of Colwell's tips for how people in relationships can learn to express themselves freely.

## Don't lose yourself in the relationship

One of the most common problems Colwell sees is when one half of a couple knows something is wrong, but doesn't take any steps to address it. "They think: 'We are having a good time and I don't want to wreck it,'" says Colwell. "So they are pretending. There are a lot of ideas out there that



Don't lash out when you're angry. / INGRAM PUBLISHING

### Breathe

## Take time to compose yourself

Lashing out in the heat of the moment is never a good idea, says Colwell. "Take a walk or go get a drink [if you are upset]," she suggests. "Trying to problem-solve in that state is a really bad idea because it just gets worse and worse. It's best to wait at least 15 to 20 minutes."

we aren't supposed to say that stuff."

## Don't be accusatory

"Instead of saying things like 'I feel like you don't pay attention to me' or 'You never loved me,' say something like 'It makes me feel sad when [we don't talk].'" Colwell suggests, adding that it's important to focus on feelings.

"Emotions are simple," says Colwell. "Saying 'I am scared because...' or 'My stomach is in a knot...' is better because

there is a whole level of intimacy with that rather than saying 'I'm really mad you were late.'"



LAKSHMI GANDHI  
@LakshmiGandhi  
lakshmi.gandhi@metro.us

## Dating profiles. Word choices vary greatly by state

Admit it: It's hard not to have your eyes glaze over after spending more than an hour perusing online dating profiles. After a while, it really does seem like everyone loves nothing more than watching "The Wire" and getting drinks on Friday nights with their friends.

But it turns out that tastes do tend to align with where online dating users live. The tech site Mashable took a deeper look into how profiles vary across the country. Using data provided to them from Match.com, the site's researchers were able to pin down the most popular



Oregon really is like "Portlandia." Daters there love to kayak. / PURESTOCK

descriptive words in profiles from each state — providing a neat window into the things people think will impress potential love interests in the

### Around the country

## Hikes and hunting, oh my!

Here are some other great word-state combinations:

- **Indiana:** NASCAR
- **Oregon:** Kayak
- **Washington (state):** Hikes
- **Wyoming:** Hunting

process.

Residents of the Bay State appropriately love the "ocean," as do our neighbors in Rhode Island. LAKSHMI GANDHI

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#### Holiday Train Show

### Bar Car Nights

The fun of nostalgia as an adult is getting to experience all the fun parts you remember from childhood with a drink in your hand.

The New York Botanical Garden has you covered with a series of special Bar Car Nights at its annual winter Holiday Train Show. And unlike your parents, who were probably drinking to cope with their adorable but screaming children, you won't be dodging other people's family drama — the event is strictly 21 and over. The first drink (beer, wine or cocktail) is even included in your ticket!

Besides the exhibit, there will also be ice sculptors at work, live jazz music, the fire and light show Cirque du Light, and festive treats (i.e., spiked cocoa and roasted chestnuts) at the Pine Tree Café. Admission is \$35 (\$25 for members) and provides access to the entire event from 7-10 p.m., though you'll have to select an entrance time when purchasing your ticket in advance.

**Fridays:** Dec. 5, 19;  
Jan. 2, 9  
**Saturdays:** Dec. 6, 20;  
Jan. 3, 10  
[www.nybg.org](http://www.nybg.org)

# A Tower-ing presence

**Tavern on the Green.** One of the pioneers of New American cooking takes the helm.

After reopening the iconic Tavern on the Green to a tepid reception in April, co-owners Jim Caiola and David Salama parted ways with chef Katy Sparks just five months later. But they weren't sure who they wanted to replace her.

"We were really conflicted about, was it going to be somebody more established, was it gonna be somebody who hasn't had their moment?" Caiola says. "Our last chef was so uncomfortable with the volume of this place, and sort of the barking from customers 'cause you know, everybody owns Tavern on the Green. So we knew we needed somebody who could thrive in that environment."

A month and a half in, they were contacted by Jeremiah Tower, who had been none-too-gently nudged out of his Mexican retirement by friends during this summer's MAD conference, the TED Talks of food.

Tower, 72, made his name in California at his San Francisco restaurant Stars, which opened in 1984 and churned out big-name chefs like Mario Batali. "We knew he could cook — well, we knew he used to," Caiola jokes. "We



Tavern on the Green's courtyard evokes the old Crystal Room with strings of tiny chandeliers. / PROVIDED



Executive chef Jeremiah Tower  
PROVIDED

#### Quoted

**"It's not just something for everyone, it's everything for someone. Tavern should be your local."** Tower

knew that he would be in a place in his life where if he said he could do it, he could do it."

The restaurant always was and will remain American, says Caiola, but "we're gonna play with it." Tower literally wrote the (James Beard Award-winning) book on New American food, and his Tavern will be more relaxed.

"It's not just something for everyone, it's everything for someone. Tavern should be your local," Tower says, using the British term for a neighborhood pub. That means anything from a hamburger at lunch to a three-hour dinner. Tower has been test-driving

new ideas for two months, but the full menu debuts this week. "There has to be some local food with a lot of other interesting things."

Though there are some critics of the new atmosphere — "We did get b— ed out by a neighbor the other day, 'Why are you letting people in there without a jacket on?'" Caiola recounts — hints remain of the Tavern that was. Gone is the Crystal Room, but in its place is a courtyard strung with hundreds of crystal chandeliers. The food, too, will nod to its history. "Jeremiah dug up an old '50s menu with frog legs, so we're gonna start

incorporating weird things like that," Samala says.

"Some of the old classics," Tower corrects.

Caiola is personally looking forward to his clams casino. Wait, what?

"They were mass-produced 'cause it's so easy," Tower says. "Same for oysters Rockefeller — delicious dish, but because nobody's made it properly in so long ... every young chef says, 'I don't want that crap' and throw it out. But they didn't deserve to be thrown out in their pristine, properly done condition."



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#### Restaurant openings



THOMAS SCHAUER STUDIO

### Almanac

The former Mas (la gril-lade) space is now chef Galen Zamarrá's new flagship restaurant, serving "micro seasonal" tasting menus as well as a la carte options. The food is a preview of the cookbook Zamarrá has not yet found the

time to complete — don't miss the oysters, which are roasted before being returned to the half-shell. The dining room feels like an upscale farmhouse, with a poured concrete bar and reclaimed wood paneling.  
28 7th Ave., Greenwich Village

### King Bee

This small, quirky spot (there's a cocktail named Dan Smith Will Teach You Guitar) is serving up Louisiana country cooking, highlighting its French and Canadian influences: grilled oysters with cabbage garlic butter and Gulf shrimp barbecue with potato salad, with produce coming from the restaurant's own garden.  
424 E. 9th St, East Village



PROVIDED



PROVIDED

### Aperitif Bistro Lounge Wine Bar

Hide away from the cold in the cozy new wine-focused Aperitif Bistro Lounge. The cuisine is French with Mediterranean and Asian influences, and you can pretend you're at a boulevard sidewalk café while people-watching from street-facing

seats for bar patrons. Entrees range from the expected steak frites to the super-seasonal Magret de Canard, seared duck breast with apple parsnip puree, sautéed asparagus and a fig jam. 213-41 39th Ave. Bayside, Queens



## MUSIC

## All I Want for Christmas Is Mariah

Dec. 6, 10 p.m.  
The Bell House  
149 Seventh St., Gowanus  
Free, thebellhouse.com  
If you like your eggnog served with some seriously high-pitched vocals, then boy are you going to love this edition of Party Like It's 1999, which salutes the 20th anniversary of Mariah Carey's "Merry Christmas" album. In addition, the DJs will be spinning their usual blend of '90s rock, pop, R&B, hip-hop and dance.

## Cyndi Lauper &amp; Friends

Dec. 6, 8 p.m.  
Beacon Theatre  
2124 Broadway  
\$50-\$2,000, beacontheatre.com  
Cyndi Lauper's fourth annual benefit concert to raise awareness about LGBT youth homelessness and funds to support the True Colors Fund's work is back, with 50 Cent, Salt-N-Pepa, Perez Hilton and more on the bill.

## BOOKS

## 'Eating Delancey'

Dec. 4, 7 p.m.  
powerhouse Arena  
37 Main St., Dumbo  
Free, powerhousearena.com  
Brooklyn's coolest bookstore is celebrating the launch of "Eating Delancey: A Celebration of Jewish Food" with accompaniment by Grammy-winning fiddler Lisa Gutkin of the Klezmatics.

## ARTS &amp; CRAFTS

## BUST Holiday Craftacular

Dec. 6-7, 11 a.m.  
Brooklyn Expo Center  
79 Franklin St., Greenpoint  
\$3, bust.com  
NYC's longest-running indie craft fair is back with the best hand-made, vintage and food vendors, make-and-take crafts, a gift wrap station, a winter wonderland photobooth, DJs and the coolest part: DAVIDSTEAKITTEA cafe with adoptable cats. Purrfect!

## PARTY

## Swing House

Dec. 6, 9 p.m.  
G&S Loft  
RSVP for address, Gowanus  
\$20, geminiandscorpio.com  
Live vintage jazz bands, burlesque dancing, exotic cocktails and electro-swing DJs remixing vintage jams can only mean one thing — a Gemini & Scorpio party. Dress like it's the jazz age and prepare to swing all night.

## FOOD &amp; WINE

## Right Bank Bordeaux

Dec. 4, 7 p.m.  
Back Label Wine Merchants  
111 W. 20th St.  
\$40, backlabelwine.com  
Hang out with Bordeaux expert Michele D'Aprix as she guides you along the Right Bank's wines. A French winemaker herself, D'Aprix knows Bordeaux's reputation as an intimidating wine and is prepared to dispel your notions. **JAY HONSTETTER**

## ARTS &amp; CRAFTS



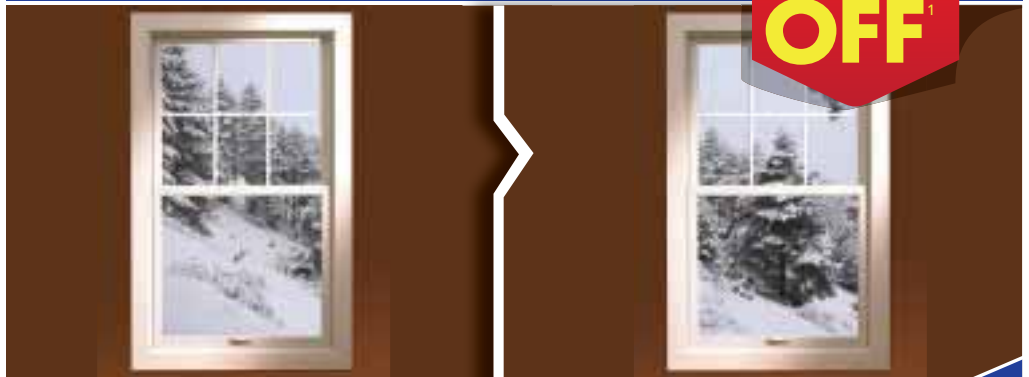
BERNY TAN

## The Degenerate Craft Fair

Dec. 6-7, noon  
DCTV Firehouse, 87 Lafayette Ave.; Free, degeneratecraftfair.com  
A craft fair designed for artists by artists — what does that mean, you ask? Oh, well instead of artists touting their wares and charging tons of money for their work, they keep their prices reasonable — most items are less than \$50. On Saturday, be sure to check out the opening reception from 6-9 p.m. for music and free beer, and on Sunday be one of the first 50 guests through the door and receive a free tote of fun!

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## MUSIC



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## Supreme BARs: The Ultimate MC &amp; Producer Tournament

Dec. 4, 8 p.m.  
Black Bear Bar, 70 N. 6th St., Williamsburg; \$5, blackbearbk.com  
MCs battle it out over beats by local producers with a twist: They're not allowed to take cheap shots at each other. Instead, the audience will pick a subject and they'll have to rap about it, with a panel of judges handing the final say.

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## Horoscope

♐ **Sagittarius | Nov. 22-Dec. 21.** Education is an ongoing search for knowledge. You will outmaneuver the competition if you continue to hone your skills.

♑ **Capricorn | Dec. 22-Jan. 20.** Whether decorating your home or renovating to better suit your needs, ask others in the home to help you.

♒ **Aquarius | Jan. 21-Feb. 18.** Overly emotional or irrational outbursts will cause others to alienate you. Prevent hurt feelings or angry confrontations by thinking matters through.

♓ **Pisces | Feb. 19-March 20.** Turn something you enjoy into a money-making venture. Extracurricular activities will help round out your social life.

♈ **Aries | March 21-April 20.** Don't expect everyone to agree with you. Work diligently to get everything in place before you share your plans.

♉ **Taurus | April 21-May 21.** Financial and personal disappointments are likely if you don't keep your emotions in check. Consider the motives of anyone who is soliciting a donation.

♊ **Gemini | May 22-June 20.** Your stress level is on the rise. Altering your surroundings will change the dynamics of your current problem or situation.

♋ **Cancer | June 21-July 22.** Others may not agree with your plans, but you have the expertise and intelligence to make your dreams come to life.

♌ **Leo | July 23-Aug. 22.** Take a step back before you make an irreversible decision. Observe what's going on around you and determine the extent of the situation and the consequences.

♍ **Virgo | Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** An unfortunate misunderstanding with one close to you is apparent. Be aware of the pressures that you both are facing.

♎ **Libra | Sept. 23-Oct. 22.** Your creativity level is high, allowing you to come up with solutions to any challenge you face.

♏ **Scorpio | Oct. 23-Nov. 21.** With your energy, you will breeze through tasks. Taking on duties will boost your reputation, but be sure to leave some time for fun pastimes. **EUGENIA LAST**

## Sudoku: Easy and hard

4		3					8	
	6				7	2		
	8	9	5			6	1	
	1			2	9			
			4		1			
			8	6			4	
	9	6			5	4	7	
		5	2				6	
	7					1		2

					1			
		7			8	9		
6				7		4	5	1
1				2		7		
9		5	7		6	2		8
		2		9				5
3	8	1		4				7
		9	2			1		
			1					

## How to play

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

## Letters

## Not psyched about Sykes

**Re: "Three secrets to managing your time" (Metro, Dec. 2)** This Tim Sykes "financial column" is completely ridiculous. He consistently talks about how much money he makes and adds nothing of relevance to a reader that is not a part of his cult. Bragging and showboating in order to get people to subscribe to his scam and piggyback off his stock trades — this column is shameful.

**JOSHUA POWERS, VIA EMAIL**

Can you please get rid of Timothy Sykes's blog?! He is so conceited and I really hate to see what he thinks. I also can't believe he wrote about how "sad" it is that Darren Wilson had to resign!

**TINA LAGERSTEDT, VIA EMAIL**

## No place for a young girl

Let me preface this by saying I believe Bill Cosby is guilty. But now, Judith Huth 56, has filed suit claiming that Cosby molested her in 1974 at the Playboy mansion when she was 15 years old. Her father, Robert, 82, says of Cosby "I hope he gets what's coming to him." I have a question for Mr. Huth — What the hell is a 15-year-old girl doing at the Playboy mansion, and what kind of father lets his 15-year-old daughter attend a "function" at the Playboy mansion?

**ROBERT LAROSA, VIA EMAIL**

## letters@metro.us

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## Crossword

## Across

- 1 Unappetizing fare
- 6 Survey chart
- 10 Sotto —
- 14 Tucker of country
- 15 CD- —
- 16 Pre-college
- 17 Emmy-winning Ed
- 18 Theater award
- 19 Fibber, plus
- 20 Family docs
- 21 Intuitions
- 23 Biological double
- 24 Prop up
- 26 Count on
- 27 Horror-flick sound
- 29 Indy 500 roar
- 31 Green-egg layers
- 32 Chopin's instrument
- 33 Stockholm carrier
- 36 Wernher von Braun, for one (2 wds.)
- 40 Grill, maybe
- 41 Mugged for the camera
- 42 Curved molding
- 43 Defeats
- 44 Forty winks
- 46 Do a double-take
- 48 Asian capital
- 49 Bit of salt
- 50 Sour cream mate
- 52 Momentary craze
- 55 Not "pro"

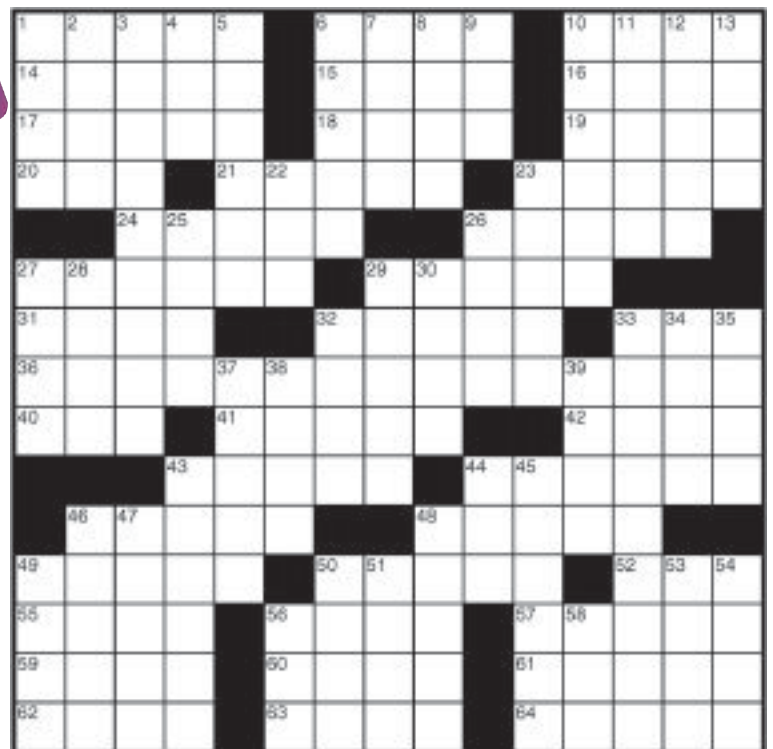
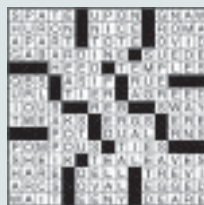
## Down

- 1 Bachelor's party
- 2 Nest builder
- 3 Two-time Winter Games site
- 4 Strong soap
- 5 Cocoon dwellers
- 6 Deep-space mission
- 7 Ear part
- 8 Left Bank chums
- 9 Mao — -tung
- 10 Expensive paper
- 11 Potpourris
- 12 Lama's melody
- 13 Limerick locale
- 22 Gross!
- 23 Hum in a soft voice
- 25 Peril
- 26 Hue
- 27 Vaccines
- 28 RN employers
- 29 Weaknesses
- 30 Sudden foray
- 32 Furtive whisper

- 33 Meant
- 34 Not in harbor
- 35 Dance move
- 37 Memorable decade
- 38 Talk up
- 39 Dorothy's dog
- 43 More suggestive
- 44 Cleveland hoopster
- 45 Lacking vitality
- 46 Washer cycle
- 47 Put in a log
- 48 Inclines
- 49 Not owing
- 50 Hi or bye
- 51 Holbrook and Linden
- 53 A Bronte sister
- 54 Forest ruminant
- 56 TV hookup
- 58 Onassis nickname



## Yesterday's answer





# PLENTY OF MOVES LEFT FOR FANTASY PLAYOFFS

If you've been reading this column since July, you've made the playoffs and are now just hoping your players don't get hurt while you're on a playoff bye. It's a wonderful feeling. Don't let the sting of the champagne in your eyes blind you for a week, though. There are still moves to be made that can put us in the best position to win our semifinal matchup.

## On the defensive

The time to map out a plan for your D/ST is now. All that matters is matchups, so even if you've been riding a good one like Seattle or New England all year, it's OK to move on. Jumping ahead a week to Week 15, the Chiefs host the Raiders and the Ravens host the Jaguars. Sell out to get them on your roster immediately. Other quality options include the Rams (home against Drew Stanton) and the Titans (home against Geno Smith).

## Handcuffs

Fantasy teams that are



The Ravens defense is a good bye-week pickup as they play the Jaguars in Week 15. / GETTY IMAGES

good enough to earn byes usually have a stacked starting lineup. The only way we're going to need our bench is if an injury strikes — so handcuffing is more profitable than a mediocre reserve like Larry Fitzgerald or Fred Jackson. The running back handcuffs are obvious — Knile Davis to Jamaal Charles, Joseph Randle to DeMarco Murray, etc. But Demaryius Thomas/Emmanuel Sanders owners should also stash Cody Latimer and

## Pickups of the week

### Offensive adds for Week 14:

- **Terrance West, RB, Browns:** Last week's fumble got West in the doghouse, but the Browns will have to turn back to him if Isaiah Crowell (hip) is out.
- **Marion Grace, RB, Cardinals:** If Andre Ellington (hip) can't go, Grace will step in for 10-14 touches.

Rob Gronkowski owners should have Tim Wright. Prepare for the worst in terms of injuries and hope for the best.

## Wag the finger

Once we have all our D/ST streamers and handcuffs in order, we can turn our attention to blockers. This means adding players that could help our opponents even though we don't intend to use them. So scoop up

## NFL matchups

Fire up these borderline wide receivers in Week 14:

- **Charles Johnson vs. NYJ:** Brush off last week's disappointment and fire up Johnson against a Jets no-name secondary primed for a letdown off MNF.
- **Reggie Wayne at CLE:** Wayne has lost a step or three, but that's OK as he'll see Buster Skrine while Joe Haden locks up T.Y. Hilton.

all the aforementioned defenses, leaving nothing of quality available. If you see that the enemy's running backs have terrible matchups in Week 15, add any running backs that have good matchups. Steal his handcuffs. Take no prisoners.



**FANTASY SPORTS**  
**ADAM LEVITAN**  
alevitan@metro.us

## NBA. Fisher remains confident that Knicks will find their rhythm

The Knicks fell to 4-15 following a loss to cross-river rival Brooklyn Nets on Tuesday. But as bad as the season has started so far — and it has been pretty bad — the one constant is the steadying hand of neophyte head coach Derek Fisher.

Despite the poor early performance, they're still within striking distance of the Nets for the eighth and final playoff seed.

"[Our record] is just the reality, but I don't know if it's the concerning thing, as though we can't do something about it," Fisher said. "If we sat there thinking that we couldn't beat the other team, then I'd be con-

cerned. But we've seen enough to let us know that if we control the parts that we can control, then we can actually win some games."

Even after his superstar, Carmelo Anthony, fired off a particularly poor shooting night (7 for 22) and also missed a possible but ill-advised game-winner, Fisher's mood was not tempered.

"That's who he is," Fisher said. "And I've played with guys who played the same way, and that's what makes them great — they'll always bet on themselves every time in those situations. But that's why they're the special players. ... I have no problems in Carmelo



The Knicks are still in the mix in the lackluster East. / GETTY IMAGES

believing in his ability to make a play and help us get a win down the stretch."

Fisher knows that once the game slows down, players get in sync, and "trust the process," the wins will start to follow.

"We have a lot of guys

who want this badly," the coach said. "So I think at times there are guys who are a little quick in late-game situations, decision making, and shot selection. ... Late in games, if we can just slow down, we'll be OK and will be able to get a good shot." **TONY WILLIAMS**

## Net-minders

### Brooklyn must rebound better

The Brooklyn Nets entered Tuesday night's tilt with the Knicks as one of the worst rebounding outfits in the league.

The squad is ranked No. 23 in the NBA on the glass, even with big men Brook Lopez and Kevin Garnett on the roster. But the lowly Knicks proved to be the perfect tonic for a Nets team that needed to flex some muscle.

"I thought we played a lot better [and with] a lot more aggression," Garnett said after grabbing 13 rebounds in the victory. "Coach [Lionel Hollins] has been stressing rebounding and playing tougher. It's been one of the things that we've been working on." **TONY WILLIAMS**

# 3

## SPORTS



## Rex inspiration

*Jets player says team is still motivated*

The Jets haven't quit on head coach Rex Ryan, so says a Jets player who is convinced that the 2-10 club will play "to the bitter end no matter what the world says." And they will do so for their head coach, who continues to be their inspiration. A Jets veteran told Metro on Tuesday that with the move back to Smith, management has "packed it in, waived the white flag, whatever you want to call it." He reached out to Metro again on Wednesday to clarify that the locker room hasn't quit on the season. "It seems like those above us, they've quit on this season. You can't do that," the player said.



Visit **Metro.us** to read more about the Jets' locker room unrest.

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